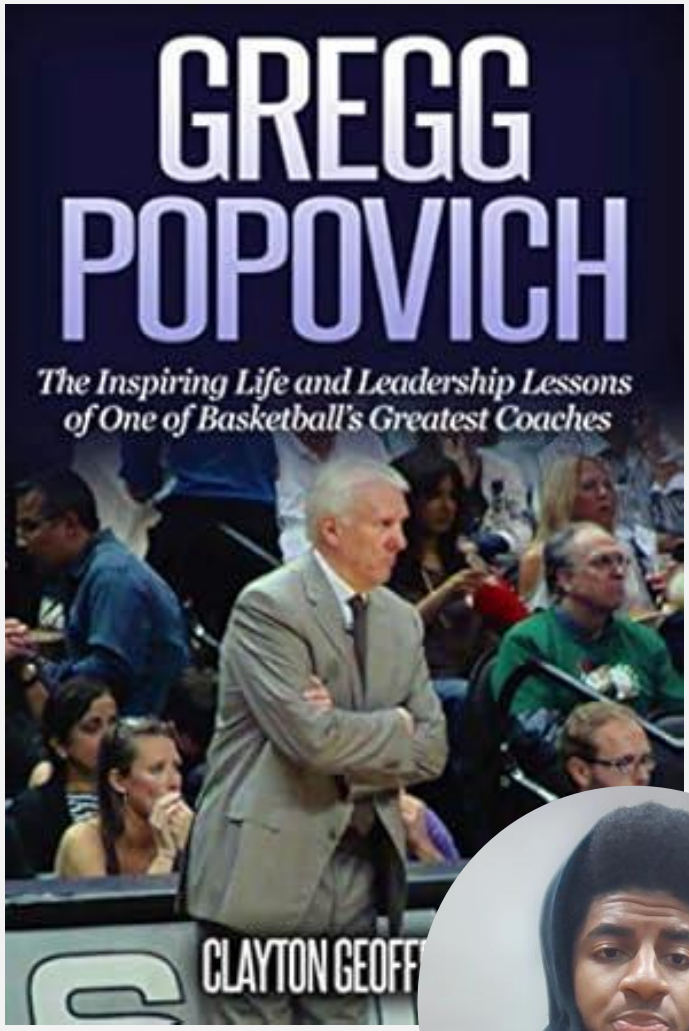
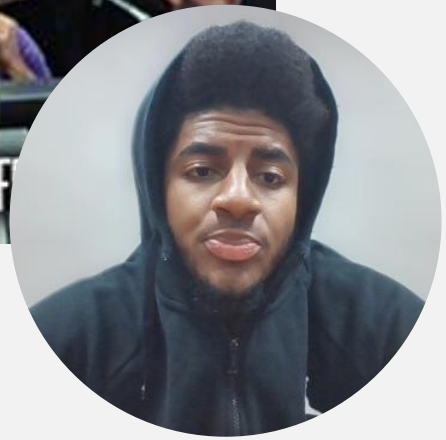
Gregg Popovich: Leadership, Life, and Basketball Lessons

- Based on Gregg Popovich: The Inspiring Life and Leadership Lessons of One of Basketball's Greatest Coaches





Background Information

- Name: Gregg Charles Popovich
- Sport: Basketball
- Teams Played For: United States Air Force Academy
- Teams Coached: San Antonio Spurs, USA Basketball
- Family Background: Married to Erin Popovich (deceased, 2018), two children
- Place of Birth: East Chicago, Indiana
- Age: 76 years old

Third class privileges after having used up a
ileges for that month. Graduation finds him he
training in his ski packing Firebird.
GREGG CHARLES POPOVICH
He came to these nondescript hills from
Indiana with his ways and his ball. Ball has
capture Popo's time during his visit at the Ac
he did while here may have been bad and it m
good, but he learned it did not matter much e
has, however, learned much about life during
stay, and some profess that it was due not t
associations and tutelage. His future plans i
ness.
SAMUEL EDWARD POPPELL
Sam started out as a man, being raised in
Greg Popovich

What Makes Gregg Popovich Special

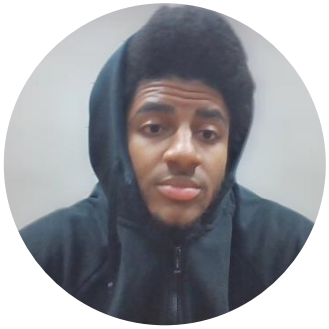
- Built a dynasty without chasing fame
- Focused on developing character, not just players
- Treated his team like family, not a business

Three Influences on His Philosophy

- Military Background: Discipline and leadership
- Mentorship from Larry Brown: Intensity and compassion
- Global Travel: Opened mind to new cultures and dynamics

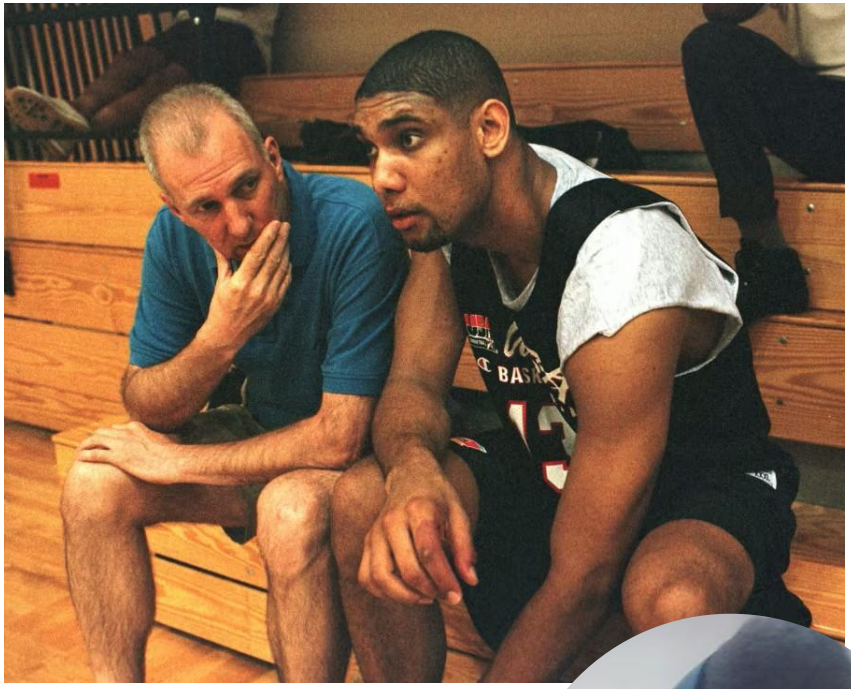
Three Quotes That Hit Home

- "Get over yourself." — Winning starts when egos leave the building.
- "You can't lead unless people trust you." — Trust is essential.
- "Pound the rock." — Small efforts build greatness.



Why I Chose Gregg Popovich

- Leadership Style: Serves his team
- Longevity: 25+ years with the Spurs
- No-Nonsense Approach: Honest and direct



How He Impacted His Players' Lives

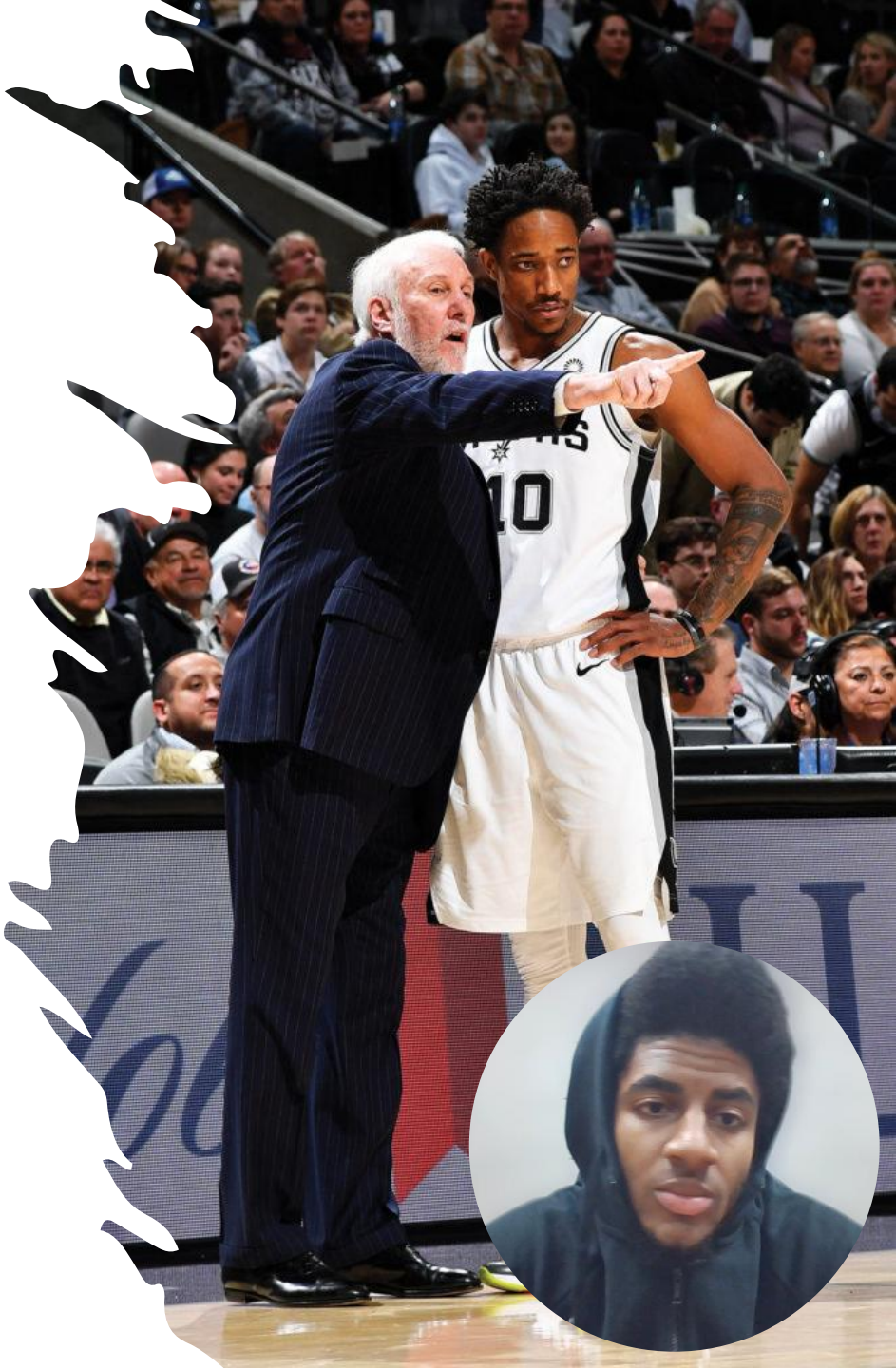
- Beyond Basketball: Life lessons
- Personal Growth: Better people
- Family Culture: Supportive environment

How He Was a Winner

- Five NBA Championships
- Most wins in NBA history
- Success without dictatorship

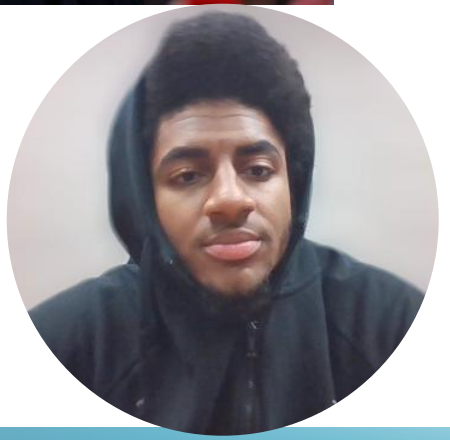
Three Things I Learned

- Patience Wins: Consistency matters
- Empathy Matters: Listening is key
- Consistency is King: Daily effort wins



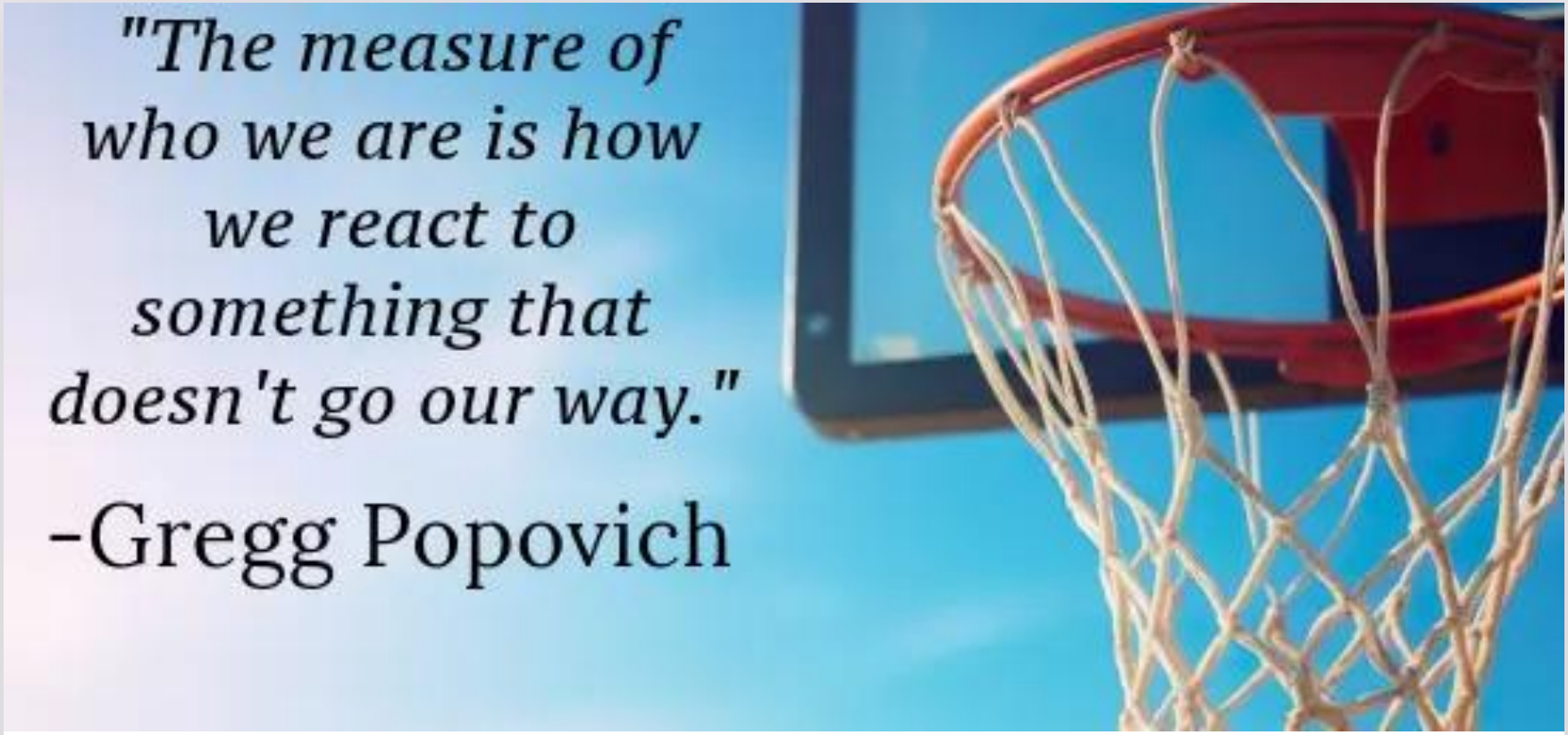
How It Will Impact Me as a Coach

- Prioritize building trust
- See athletes as people first
- Commit to daily growth



Would I Recommend This Book?

- Absolutely. Leadership lessons for life, not just sports.
- Must-read for anyone building something meaningful.


"The measure of who we are is how we react to something that doesn't go our way."
-Gregg Popovich

Thank You!